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Commissioner for Patents
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Transmitted herewith for filing in the application of:

APPLICANT: MAZLOUT, LAZHAR) ART UNIT:
APPLICATION #:) EXAMINER:
FILED:)
FOR: CARTON DISPENSING MACHINE

PETITION REQUESTING PROSECUTION BY ASSIGNEE

COMES NOW the undersigned, pursuant to 35 USC §118 and 37 CFR §1.47(b), and requests that the assignee of the entire interest in the above-described invention be allowed to prosecute the attached patent application in the absence of any of the named inventors, and in support thereof, states as follows:

1. To the best of the Applicant's knowledge, the inventors of the above-described invention are Lazhar Mazlout and Benen Olidi.
2. The inventors made the invention while working for a company called General Scientific Canada, of Montreal Canada. The inventors were apparently president and vice president, respectively, of General Scientific Canada.
3. The invention was made under contract to the Florida Black Business Support Corporation.
4. The inventors assigned all their rights in the invention to the Florida Black Business Support Corporation. A copy of this assignment is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

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5. Subsequent to the assignment, General Scientific Canada either ceased operations or moved to an unknown location.

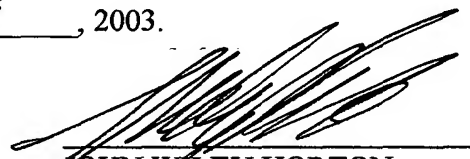
6. Diligent effort has been made to contact the inventors over the past six months, with no success. An affidavit attesting to the failed attempts to contact the inventors is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

7. The last known address for the inventors is 5115 Trans Island, Suite 220, Montreal, PQ H3W 2Z9, Canada. The last known phone number for the inventors is 514-487-9678. The last known email address for the inventors is support@gensci.com.

8. The Florida Black Business Support Corporation is poised to commercialize the invention. This activity has been delayed by the inability to seek patent protection. An affidavit attesting to the present plans to commercialize the invention is attached hereto as Exhibit C.

WHEREFORE, the Assignee hereby requests that the Honorable Commissioner allow the attached patent application to be prosecuted by the Assignee in the absence of the inventors.

Respectfully submitted this 23rd day of JUNE, 2003.



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